

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02

DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 /111 W

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6917

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

USDOEHQ WASHDC PRIORITY

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USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

DOE PASS AMMONS, IA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IAEA, TECH, PARM, VE

SUBJECT: VENEZUELA/IAEA NPT SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT

REF: CARACAS 5532

1. VENEZUELAN TEAM HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED NEGOTIATIONS WITH IAEA SECRETARIAT ON SUBJECT AGREEMENT AND WILL SIGN IT ON AD REFERENDUM BASIS TOMORROW JUNE 22. AGREEMENT WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL AT ITS PRE-GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

2. FYI. VENEZUELAN ON THIRD DAY OF NEGOTIATIONS BACKED OFF ON SEVERAL OBJECTIONS TO CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT, THUS ENABLING AGENCY SECRETARIAT TO WRAP THINGS UP IN SHORT ORDER. AS MATTER OF INTEREST, THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONAN LAWYER, DR. PEDRO MEGUEL REYES, REPORTEDLY APPEARED TO BE LEADING THE NEGOTIATIONS THIS TIME, RATHER THAN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY LAWYER (YEPES), WHO SEEMED TO BE IN THAT ROLE THE LAST TWO TIMES THE TEAM WAS HERE. THE ONLY EXCEPTION WAS ON THE LAST DAY WHEN THE VENEZUELAN "CAPITULATED" ON A NUMBER OF POINTS, ALL OF WHICH WAS HANDLED BY YEPES. THE DEFENSE MINISTRY LAWYER REPORTEDLY

WAS UNUSUALLY QUIET AND SUBDUED THIS TIME AROUND. THE ATTITUDE OF THE TEAM WAS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT AND IT WAS CLEAR TO THE SECRETARIAT LAWYERS FROM THE START OF THIS LAST ROUND THAT THE VENEZUELANS WERE INDEED SERIOUS IN WANTING TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE SECRETARIAT IS GENERALLY AWARE THAT THE U.S. HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH STIMULATING THIS SHIFT IN POSITIONS, AND IS GRATEFUL FOR THIS. END FYI.

3. MISSION APPRECIATES AMBASSADOR VAKY'S PERSONAL INTERVENTION ON THIS MATTER, WHICH CLEARLY WAS A DECISIVE FACTOR IN ENABLING A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO BE REACHED.
KIRK

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